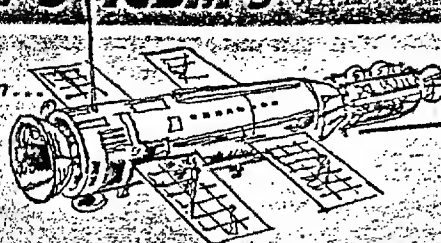


... which is recovered over the Pacific by C-130 transport plane



NUCLEAR MISSILE TESTS

SOVIET UNION

U.S. missile-tracking ships follow Soviet test missiles as they split into separate re-entry vehicles (MIRV's) and splash down

'VERY SERIOUS DOUBTS': The most public clash over SALT verification came when Sen. John Glenn of Ohio—who said he hoped Carter would eventually produce a treaty he could sign—aired his reservations at the christening of the Trident submarine SSN-598. In the text of his speech, Glenn observed: "With the recent loss of our in-

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telligence-gathering capability in Iran, very to verify" SALT II. He had also planned to outline three proposals that would "place both nations on the same comparable monitoring base." Both passages were dropped from the delivered speech, but only after a half-hour telephone call from Jimmy Carter. Carter was furious that Glenn would suggest his own bargaining points while the negotiations were still underway. "There's a law," said one senior White House aide, "that the President is charged with negotiating treaties, not senators. This could blow the whole damn thing."

The White House persuaded Glenn to drop the offending passages, and tacked a rebuttal onto the remarks of Rosalynn Carter, who was also present. "Assure as I'm standing here today," Mrs. Carter said, "I can tell you that when Jimmy signs a SALT treaty, it will be verifiable." "It is my feeling," she added, "that premature public debate on issues such as this can be very damaging."

That argument—that the Administration cannot respond to critics without jeopardizing the negotiations themselves—has been seized upon by White House aides. "There are answers to all the charges," complains one of them, "but they're three categories above top secret. We can't even debate some of this stuff in a closed session of the Senate because it's so sensitive."

NO LOOPHOLES? The Administration argues that the mistakes in SALT I and that this time there won't be any loopholes. NEWSWEEK learned that the Administration has completed plans to compensate for the monitoring capability lost with the shutdown of the Iran stations, and that the President is satisfied that the new arrangement insures adequate verification of Soviet compliance. "It doesn't get it all back," an aide said, "but it's sufficient."

Optimists in the Administration still believe that they will be able to persuade the necessary 67 U.S. Senators that SALT II is airtight. Maintaining public support, they concede, will be tougher. One gambit under consideration at the White House is the release of one or more satellite photographs—a possibility made more attractive by the fact that the Soviets now know how the satellite works. But some officials believe that the photographs, which must be subjected to a variety of exotic treatments before they reveal their secrets, would be less than impressive to the untrained eye. How much of the U.S. reconnaissance and monitoring capability will the Administration reveal in order to ratify SALT II? "To the Senate, everything," said one Administration official last week. "With the American people, it's going to be tougher. People are going to have to trust their elected officials."

DAVID BUTLER with DAVID MARTIN,
ELEANOR CLIFT, THOMAS M. DeFRANK
and JOHN J. LINDSAY in Washington